

National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 24, 2008 08-18 Glen Canyon National Recreation Area

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Glen Canyon News Release

One Dead, Seven Ill from Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Page, Ariz. – At 2:48 a.m. on June 24th, National Park Service dispatch received a distress call from a rental houseboat moored in Rock Creek Bay on Lake Powell. Eight persons, extended family from Arizona, were on board, all suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning.

Reports indicate that one individual, a 62 year old man, was awakened during the night and recognized something was wrong. He was able to rouse another person and together they started to evacuate others to the outside deck. During this process the first man suffered an apparent heart attack and died.

National Park Service rangers and Classic Lifeguard responded to the scene and seven persons were evacuated to Page Hospital via helicopter. Six persons have since been transferred for treatment in a hyperbaric chamber in St. George, Utah.

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas that is produced by all running engines. Dangerous levels of carbon monoxide can build up in lower levels of vessels when there is poor air circulation.

The National Park Service has begun an investigation of the incident.

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